

And the other part of his plan is more trade agreements like the Central American Free Trade Agreement; we have got one with Australia coming down; the Singapore, Chile, the Central American Free Trade Agreement coming up; the Free Trade Area of the Americas, which will double the size of NAFTA, quadruple the number of low-income workers, those trade agreements that hemorrhage jobs and ship jobs overseas.

So when we see Alan Greenspan say we have got to keep giving tax cuts to millionaires but to pay for them we are going to have to cut Social Security and Medicare, that is the same thing that George Bush is saying when he continues this economic policy. Again, this economic policy is twofold. It is tax cuts for the most privileged people in our society, the people who need it the least; and trickle-down economics and trade agreements that hemorrhage jobs, that ship jobs overseas.

It is simply not working. We have lost 3 million jobs. In fact, George Bush will likely, we do not know in the next 10 months for sure, but likely will be the first President since Herbert Hoover to actually have lost jobs during his time in office. That has not happened. The jobs he is losing are some of America's best jobs. They are manufacturing jobs. They are jobs that have sent kids to college, allowed people to buy a home, allowed people to have a middle-class life-style. If we continue this trickle-down economics and we continue these trade agreements that ship jobs overseas, we will continue this loss of jobs, and we will never see our economy come back the way it should and bring us the kind of country that we are used to having.

That is why Alan Greenspan's comments really do hit home, that he wants to continue this tax policy, continue trickle-down economics. It just means the choice that he is making, the choice that President Bush is making, the choice that Republican leaders in Congress are making is that in order to pay for these tax cuts, this Congress is going to have to cut Social Security and Medicare. It is the wrong choice. It is the wrong idea for America. It is a violation of American values, our family values that help our families send our kids to college and build the kind of life-styles and the kind of lives for our children that we so desire.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. CONYERS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN HONOR OF THE CAREER OF DR. JOSE HINOJOSA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend, a university professor, a renowned expert and the dean of the school of politics in south Texas, Dr. Jose Hinojosa. For a generation, Dr. Hinojosa has been the compass for anyone who hoped to navigate a political career in south Texas. Successful politicians, mayors, county judges, State senators and representatives and, yes, Members of this body, myself included, are all proud alumni of the Dr. Hinojosa school of public service.

Dr. Hinojosa, after 26 years of service, has decided to retire. As a political science professor at the University of Texas Pan American, he is nationally recognized for his knowledge and expertise in the regional politics of south Texas. For Dr. Hinojosa, political science is not merely an academic exercise. It is about empowering the community he so dearly loves, the Mexican American community. To that end, Dr. Hinojosa established the School of Public Administration at the University of Texas Pan American. He knew that electing Hispanic leaders was only step one of the empowerment process. He helped build the intellectual infrastructure and knowledge base to make newly minted public officials successful in the art of governing.

Dr. Hinojosa is a native of Jim Wells County and the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Teodulo Hinojosa of Palito Blanco, a lovely community in central Texas, which is adorned with bluebonnets and many other wildflowers during the spring time. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas A&I University, Kingsville, which is now Texas A&M University at Kingsville. He received his doctorate in government and international studies from the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Hinojosa has taught at many prestigious institutions, including the University of Texas Pan American, the University of Texas at Austin, Ohio State University, and Notre Dame. He has been called to the service of Governors and Presidents. He served on the National Advisory Council for Ethnic Heritage Studies during President Carter's administration and on the Job Injury and Interagency Council Advisory Committee under Texas Governor Mark White.

However, his greatest contributions have been felt in his home, south Texas. Dr. Hinojosa is an outstanding teacher, whether to students enrolled in a political science course or to candidates for public office. His enthusiasm for public service and for the democratic process is infectious and he has inspired thousands of people, young and not so young, to participate in our democracy. His voice, even after a bout with throat cancer costing him the use of his vocal cords, has always been a call to action. From the difficult days of segregation after World War II to today, Dr. Hinojosa has maintained an

unshakeable faith in the people of south Texas. One only has to visit the Rio Grande Valley to see the progress that Dr. Hinojosa has fostered and cultivated since the first Hispanic county judge was elected in Hidalgo County in 1970. Today, the Lower Rio Grande Valley is one of the four fastest growing and most dynamic regions in the country.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Hinojosa has decided to retire. He will be sorely missed in the halls of college campuses and the halls of government; but I know that his wife, his children, and grandchildren have great plans for him.

□ 1430

Dr. Hinojosa has taught us well, and the number of Hispanics seeking to win Federal elected positions will continue to skyrocket thanks to him.

In conclusion, I ask all Members of Congress to join me in commending Dr. Jose Hinojosa for his exceptional career and contributions to the great State of Texas and our Nation.

MILITARY RETIREES ARE WAITING; LET US FINISH THE JOB

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BISHOP of Utah). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to let everyone know of a bill I have introduced that will eliminate what we call the Disabled Veterans Tax and to provide immediate concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability compensation to all deserving disabled military retirees.

H.R. 3730 is called the Immediate and Full Repeal of the Disabled Veterans Tax Act of 2004 and does exactly what the title says. It eliminates the years of waiting before all disabled military retirees receive all the retired pay and compensation they have earned and deserve.

Last year, our Nation's veterans waged a long and determined campaign to eliminate this Disabled Veterans Tax. As my colleagues know, we did take a step that some say was a legitimate compromise but I call an insult to our veterans. That law makes veterans with a disability rating of 50 percent or more wait 10 years before their tax is completely eliminated. A great number of those veterans are elderly and unfortunately may not live to see the day that they get their full compensation.

Even worse, fully two thirds of America's disabled veterans have been left behind and will continue to be taxed as before, nearly 400,000 of our veterans. Despite the actions of Congress, the Disabled Veterans Tax is alive and well.

Some of the veterans left behind include a veteran of the Kuwait theatre who had below-the-knee amputation after being hit by a drunk driver while jogging near the Pentagon to maintain